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Promoting Access To Voting

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General Comment

These comments are being submitted on behalf of the Self-Advocacy Leadership Team (SALT), which serves as consultants for the New Hampshire Council on Developmental Disabilities and other advocacy organizations. The groups' members are talented citizens with lived experience of disability who want to effect positive change in New Hampshire. They are committed to addressing the needs of people who experience disabilities by tackling big issues that support meaning and quality of life in the community.

What barriers do people with disabilities encounter while voting in America? (This can include access to information about the voting process, voter registration, accessibility of polling places, etc.)

- Lack of screen readers/magnifiers and other barriers for people who have low/lack of vision.
- Access to polls and signage to help lead people on how to move through the polling stations.
- Lack of training for using One4All machines.
- Lack of privacy when attempting to use the accommodations.
- Lack of outreach to voters with disabilities about issues, candidates, and how to access the voting process.
- Absentee/early voting ballot drop offs not being accessible.
- Fear the votes will not be counted.

What systems/processes enable voters with disabilities to vote privately and independently in the United States?

- Absentee Balloting
- One4All machine
- Access to Transportation
- Curbside voting

How can the United States improve voter access for people with disabilities?

- More advocacy and training for people with disabilities.
- The need for more engagement with people to inform them on the importance of voting.
- Creating tool-kits for voters.